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Measures to prevent terrorists from acquiring weapons of mass destruction

Report of the Secretary-General

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I. Introduction

1. In its resolution 70/36 entitled "Measures to prevent terrorists from acquiring weapons of mass destruction", the General Assembly called upon all Member States to support international efforts to prevent terrorists from acquiring weapons of mass destruction and their means of delivery. The Assembly also urged Member States to take and strengthen national measures, as appropriate, to this end. The Assembly requested the Secretary-General to compile a report on measures already taken by international organizations on issues relating to the linkage between the fight against terrorism and the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction, to seek the views of Member States on additional relevant measures, including national measures, for tackling the global threat posed by the acquisition by terrorists of weapons of mass destruction and to report to the Assembly at its seventy-first session. The present report is submitted in response to that request.

2. By a note verbale dated 11 February 2016, Member States were invited to inform the Secretary-General of the measures taken and to communicate their views on the issue. On 12 February 2016, letters were also dispatched to relevant international organizations, including relevant bodies and agencies of the United Nations.

3. Replies received from Member States and international organizations are included in sections II and III, respectively, of the present report. Additional replies will be issued as addenda to the present report.

II. Replies received from Governments

Albania

[Original: English]
[8 May 2016]

Albania, pursuant to Security Council resolution 1540 (2004), developed a national export control system and has a national Authority in charge of respecting the international commitments of Albania on the non-proliferation of weapons of mass destruction.

The institution responsible for implementing state policy in the area of export controls in the Republic of Albania is the State Export Control Authority, in cooperation with ministries and other state entities that share competencies in export control. The main purpose of establishing the state export control system is to protect national security interests, to fulfil Albania's international commitments on the non-proliferation of weapons of mass destruction, the restriction of illegal conventional arms transfers and the taking of the appropriate measures to prevent their use for terrorist or other illegal purposes.

This institution:

- Conducts analyses and provides the required expertise regarding goods and activities subject to export and transit/trans-shipment. This control includes all phases of the process, starting from pre-licensing, to further control after the entity is granted a license and to the verification of the end user and the final destination of goods

- Issues legal documents: licences, authorizations and certificates
- Sanctions legal violations in the area of state export controls
- Monitors the enforcement of embargoes
- Serves as a contact point in implementing the international agreements

Albania has no chemical/biological/nuclear/radioactive weapons production and has no stocks of weapons of mass destruction in the country, but nevertheless has in place an effective export control system and the legislation framework to prevent the international transfer (import/export/transit/brokering) of such materials into the hands of terrorist groups.

Argentina

[Original: Spanish]
[1 June 2016]

Argentina is a member of the five control regimes for sensitive exports: the Australia Group for chemical and biological materials, the Zangger Committee and the Nuclear Suppliers' Group for nuclear material, the Missile Technology Control Regime for space technology and the Wassenaar Arrangement for conventional arms. Those regimes have developed, within their broader spheres of competence, specific measures for addressing the potential threat of non-State actors obtaining access to weapons of mass destruction.

Argentina has participated in the Nuclear Security Summit from the outset.

Argentina has participated in the Global Initiative to Combat Nuclear Terrorism since 2010. In that context, it collaborated with Chile to organize a table-top exercise on the mitigation of and response to a radiological incident. The event took place in Buenos Aires from 5 to 7 August 2014 and was attended by States participating in the Global Initiative to Combat Nuclear Terrorism.

Argentina participates in the International Export Control Conferences.

Argentina provides cooperation in the form of assistance in the implementation of Security Council resolution 1540 (2004). At the request of States, it provides capacity-building for experts in chemistry, biology, nuclear and radiological issues and chemical emergencies.

At the national level, Argentina has a regime for the control of sensitive exports and military materiel (Decree No. 603/92 and the amendments and addenda thereto). This regime includes all the control lists of the principal international regimes. Consequently, an export licence or an import certificate (where required by the exporting State) must be issued in advance for all exports of sensitive items that are subject to such controls. These documents are issued by an interministerial commission consisting of the Ministries of Defence, Production and Foreign Affairs and Worship. Various technical entities also take part in the licensing process, as appropriate: the Scientific and Technical Defence Research Institute (chemical, biological, military and dual-use), the Nuclear Regulatory Authority (nuclear and dual-use) and the National Space Activities Control Commission (missile and dual-use). The interministerial commission establishes licence types and a series of procedures for processing licences, in accordance with different trade flows and the

requirements of different non-proliferation treaties and international groups to which the Argentine State is a party.

Australia

[Original: English]
[31 May 2016]

Effective national action and global cooperation on counter-terrorism, and on chemical, biological, radiological and nuclear terrorism issues, must continue to ensure terrorists do not acquire or use weapons of mass destruction.

Australia attaches the highest priority to the security of its own chemical, biological, radiological and nuclear (CBRN) materials. Australia is working collaboratively on CBRN security including through the Global Initiative to Combat Nuclear Terrorism. In 2016, Australia continues to chair the Nuclear Forensics Working Group of the Initiative. In May 2016, Australia hosted a nuclear terrorism tabletop exercise and workshop for the Initiative called "Kangaroo Harbour". This workshop demonstrated international best practices in issuing and responding to notifications and assistance requests involving the threat and use of radioactive materials in a terrorist attack.

Australia is the permanent chair of the Australia Group, which works to strengthen national export controls for material, equipment and technologies which could be used for the production of chemical and biological weapons. As a strong supporter of national export controls, Australia is committed to expanding international trade in chemical and biological goods for peaceful purposes and maintaining active chemical and biotechnological industries within a secure regulatory framework. In this context, Australia encourages United Nations Member States to implement CBRN export controls drawing on Australia Group, Nuclear Suppliers Group, Wassenaar Arrangement and Missile Technology Control Regime guidelines.

Colombia

[Original: Spanish]
[18 April 2016]

In accordance with its foreign policy of general and complete disarmament, Colombia refrains from providing any form of support to non-State actors that attempt to develop, acquire, manufacture, possess, transport, transfer or use nuclear, chemical or biological weapons and their means of delivery.

Accordingly, Colombia is a State party to the main international legal instruments in the field of disarmament and non-proliferation of weapons of mass destruction, namely, the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, the Biological Weapons Convention and the Chemical Weapons Convention.

Colombia recognizes the importance of resolution 1540 (2004) of the Security Council, and its aim of preventing the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction and their means of delivery by non-State actors.

In that regard, our country has on four occasions submitted its national report on the measures taken to implement resolution 1540 (2004). In addition, it has submitted cooperation requests to the 1540 Committee with a view to ensuring an effective response to the challenge that terrorists may acquire weapons of mass destruction.

Mindful of the importance of promoting the physical protection of nuclear material in international transport, the criminalization of conduct involving such materials and the exchange of information among States, in 2014, Colombia deposited its instrument of ratification of the amendment to the Convention on the Physical Protection of Nuclear Material.

Cuba

[Original: Spanish]
[27 May 2016]

The existence of weapons of mass destruction, in particular nuclear weapons, constitutes a serious threat to international peace and security. The only effective way to prevent the acquisition and use of weapons of mass destruction, including by terrorists, is to ensure the immediate and complete prohibition and elimination of all such weapons.

Our country shares the deep concern about the risk of linkages between terrorism and weapons of mass destruction in the current international context.

Cuba does not possess and has no intention of possessing weapons of mass destruction. Cuba remains firmly committed to the full and effective implementation of the international legal instruments prohibiting these weapons, instruments to which it is a State party, and is resolved to promote a world free of such weapons.

Cuba has maintained a firm and consistent position against terrorism, as reflected in its ratification of 18 terrorism-related international conventions, including the International Convention for the Suppression of Acts of Nuclear Terrorism, which is mentioned explicitly in General Assembly resolution 70/36.

Cuba has also adopted a set of legislative, administrative and institutional measures designed to ensure that no terrorist acts, in any of their forms and manifestations, are committed on its territory, including measures to prevent terrorists from acquiring weapons of mass destruction, their means of delivery and materials and technologies related to their manufacture. Law No. 93 (the Counter-Terrorism Act), adopted in December 2001 and amended by Decree-Law No. 316 of 2013, and Decree-Law No. 317 of 2013 on the prevention and detection of transactions related to money-laundering, financing of terrorism, arms proliferation and illicit capital flows both strengthen the measures we have taken to prevent our country from serving as a channel for the acquisition of such weapons or their components by terrorists.

Cuba attaches great importance to the implementation of the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy, an instrument that should guide the global struggle against this scourge.

Cuba has never allowed, nor will it allow, terrorist acts of any kind against any State to be carried out, planned or financed on its territory. It reiterates its

unequivocal condemnation of all terrorist acts, methods and practices, in all their forms and manifestations, by whomever, against whomsoever and wherever they are committed, whatever the motives, including State terrorism. It further condemns any action aimed at encouraging, supporting, financing or covering up any terrorist act, method or practice.

Cuba reiterates its call for the commencement, without further delay, of negotiations for the prompt conclusion of a comprehensive convention for the complete elimination of nuclear weapons within a specified time frame and under strict international control.

The destruction of all types of chemical weapons in the shortest time possible would represent the greatest contribution that the Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons could make to international efforts to ensure that these weapons of mass destruction do not fall into the hands of terrorists.

A multilaterally negotiated and legally binding protocol to strengthen the Biological Weapons Convention that includes international cooperation and verification is key to ensuring that such weapons are never used by or against anyone.

Efforts to counter terrorism must be universal and must involve multilateral agreement through genuinely effective international cooperation to prevent and combat all acts of terrorism based on strict respect for international law and the Charter of the United Nations.

It is necessary to ensure that no measure adopted by the Security Council undermines the central role of the General Assembly and existing multilateral treaties on weapons of mass destruction. The selective and discriminatory initiatives being promoted by groups of countries outside the multilateral framework in no way contribute to, but rather weaken, the role of the United Nations in all aspects of the struggle against weapons of mass destruction.

India[1]

[Original: English]
[31 May 2015]

India sponsored General Assembly resolution 69/39, entitled "Measures to prevent terrorists from acquiring weapons of mass destruction", to highlight the concerns of the international community with regard to terrorism related to weapons of mass destruction. The international response to this threat needs to be at the national, multilateral and global levels.

India recognizes that the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction and their means of delivery is a major challenge facing the international community and has supported global efforts for preventing the proliferation of such weapons. As a victim of terrorism for over three decades, we are fully cognizant of the catastrophic dangers that transfers of such weapons to non-State actors and terrorists could entail. Clandestine proliferation networks have led to insecurity for all and must not

[1] The full text of the information provided by the Government of India is available on the website of the Office for Disarmament Affairs. A summary was provided for inclusion in the present report.

be allowed to reappear. The international community must join hands in eliminating the risks relating to sensitive materials and technologies falling into hands of terrorists and non-State actors. The focus on non-State actors should in no way diminish State accountability in combating terrorism, dismantling its support infrastructure or curbing its linkages with weapons of mass destruction.

India has taken steps to prohibit access to weapons of mass destruction by terrorists and non-State actors through measures at the national level as well as participation in international cooperative efforts. India has in place a well-established, stringent and effective export control system based on legislation, regulations and a control list of sensitive materials, equipment and technologies consistent with the highest international standards. India is committed to maintaining effective national export controls and is prepared to make its contribution as a full member of the respective multilateral export control regimes.

India supports enhanced international cooperation, including through the United Nations, the International Atomic Energy Agency, the Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons and other relevant forums to prevent terrorists from acquiring weapons of mass destruction. India participates in the Global Initiative to Combat Nuclear Terrorism and contributed to the Nuclear Security Summit process. India believes that the primary responsibility for ensuring nuclear security rests at the national level, but national responsibility must be accompanied by responsible behaviour as well as sustained and effective international cooperation. It is essential that all States scrupulously abide by their international obligations. India published a handbook on "Nuclear security in India" in March 2014, which was updated at the 2016 National Security Summit as India's national progress report.

Islamic Republic of Iran

[Original: English]
[16 June 2016]

The Islamic Republic of Iran is deeply concerned at the continued existence and development of weapons of mass destruction as well as the worldwide escalation of acts of terrorism. Iran strongly believes that, as long as weapons of mass destruction exist, the possibility of their acquisition by terrorists persists. Therefore, no measure, other than the total elimination of all weapons of mass destruction, will be effective in preventing terrorists from acquiring them.

As a victim of terrorist acts and chemical weapons, Iran supports the general objective of General Assembly resolution 70/36 in preventing terrorists from acquiring weapons of mass destruction and strongly believes that the only absolute guarantee against the threat or use of weapons of mass destruction, either by States or terrorists, is the total elimination of such weapons. To that end, the full, effective and non-discriminatory implementation, by all States parties at all times, of all provisions of major multilateral treaties banning weapons of mass destruction, as well as the ensuring of the universality of the treaties at the earliest possible time, are essential.

In this regard, Iran stresses the need for the destruction of all remaining chemical weapons in the shortest possible time frame, in accordance with the Chemical Weapons Convention. At the same time, while the Biological Weapons Convention and the Chemical Weapons Convention prohibit the development,

production and stockpiling of such weapons and provide for their destruction, Iran strongly supports the judgment of the large majority of the Member States, as reflected in General Assembly resolution 68/32, that there is a need "for the urgent commencement of negotiations in the Conference on Disarmament for the early conclusion of a comprehensive convention on nuclear weapons to prohibit their possession, development, production, acquisition, testing, stockpiling, transfer, use or threat of use and to provide for their destruction".

In this context, Iran believes that non-proliferation and disarmament can be considered mutually reinforcing only if the efforts directed towards non-proliferation are followed by simultaneous efforts aimed at disarmament. Iran is also of the view that non-proliferation efforts should not divert attention from nuclear disarmament, which is the highest priority of the international community.

Taking into account the unspeakable death and destruction caused by terrorist acts — the living examples of which are the ongoing activities of the foreign terrorist fighters in Syria and Iraq — Iran is of the view that, in order to effectively combat the threat of terrorists, regardless of the type of means and weapons that they use, it is necessary to address all underlying causes of terrorism, globally and systematically.

All States parties to treaties on combating terrorism are required to fully comply with their respective obligations under such treaties, effectively prevent and combat all terrorist acts and seriously refrain from providing any kind of support to terrorists.

As a party to all international instruments banning weapons of mass destruction, namely the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, the Chemical Weapons Convention, the Biological Weapons Convention and the Protocol for the Prohibition of the Use in War of Asphyxiating, Poisonous or Other Gases, and of Bacteriological Methods of Warfare, and also based on its principled position, Iran considers acquiring, developing and using weapons of mass destruction to be inhumane, immoral, illegal and against its very basic principles. Likewise, Iran has developed and maintained national controls to account for and secure any nuclear, biological and chemical material for exclusively peaceful purposes, and therefore to prevent any unauthorized access to them or their diversion to illegal activities.

It is the strong conviction of Iran that only through adopting such a multi-pronged approach would the international community of States be able to effectively prevent both the emergence of terrorist groups and their possible access to weapons of mass destruction.

Kazakhstan

[Original: English]
[1 June 2016]

The Export Control System of Kazakhstan is rigorous and strict, with close interaction and coordination between relevant state authorities, and internal compliance control by companies and the main nuclear exporters. The National Response Plan is enforced in the field of nuclear activities to prevent illicit trafficking and other illegal actions involving nuclear and other radioactive materials and radiation sources. The Plan operates under the framework of the new

Law on the Use of Atomic Energy. Measures will be undertaken to train personnel and experts to implement the Plan.

In the National Nuclear Centre of Kazakhstan, the creation of an Identification Centre for Nuclear and Radioactive Materials has already commenced, with the aim of developing a database with passports for all nuclear and radioactive sources fabricated in or imported to Kazakhstan. The sources will be identified especially in cases of possible illicit use or trafficking. Radioactive wastes will also be accounted for, with the purpose of developing a strategy for radioactive waste management.

Kazakhstan has ratified the Convention on the Physical Protection of Nuclear Material and its amendments. This will be an important step in strengthening nuclear security at the national and international levels.

We are continuing our outreach efforts in the context of the Central Asian nuclear-weapon-free zone. Kazakhstan, with other member States of the zone, will develop and adopt an agreement on cooperation to prevent the illegal trafficking of nuclear materials and combat nuclear terrorism in the region of Central Asia. This step will further strengthen nuclear security in our region, as Kazakhstan continues to discuss it with the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, the United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research and the United Nations Regional Centre for Preventive Diplomacy for Central Asia.

We underscore the leading role of IAEA in strengthening global nuclear security and support all measures in this regard. In August 2015, an agreement was signed between Kazakhstan and IAEA to establish the IAEA low enriched uranium bank on our territory. Kazakhstan will finalize the construction of the bank's storage facility in 2017, meeting all applicable safety standards of the Agency as per the recommendations in its corresponding documents.

Kazakhstan has participated in all activities of the Global Partnership against the Spread of Weapons and Materials of Mass Destruction and the Global Initiative to Combat Nuclear Terrorism. We will make all efforts to implement the measures of these initiatives.

Kazakhstan will also strengthen its cooperation with the International Criminal Police Organization and actively enforce the respective action plans to prevent and combat nuclear terrorism, smuggling, illicit trafficking and other illegal actions related to nuclear materials.

Lebanon

[Original: Arabic]
[8 April 2016]

Lebanon wishes to emphasize that:

- Lebanon possesses no weapons of mass destruction and is in compliance with United Nations resolutions prohibiting the use or acquisition of such weapons by terrorists. Lebanon has introduced laws and regulations that allow for the monitoring of the export, transit and cross-border movement of weapons of all kinds, prohibit trafficking in such weapons, and prosecute any terrorists. Lebanese law prohibits terrorism and provides for the prosecution of terrorists.

- Lebanon supports closer cooperation between States and has contributed to international counter-terrorism efforts. It has put in place strict deterrent legislation concerning the surveillance and prosecution of any terrorists.
- Lebanon is combating the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction and is also working to curb armament, with a view to establishing a zone free of weapons of mass destruction in the Middle East. Moreover, Lebanon is opposed to the threat or use of such weapons.
- Lebanon condemns all forms of terrorism and participates in concerted and collective international counter-terrorism efforts.
- Lebanon expresses grave concern that Israel's failure to comply with international law poses a threat to all countries in the region.

Oman

[Original: Arabic]
[22 April 2016]

The Sultanate of Oman has put in place numerous national measures to prevent unauthorized parties from gaining access to weapons of mass destruction or materials related to their manufacture. In coordination with other competent agencies, the Ministry of the Environment and Climate Affairs has played a pivotal role in that area. In order to handle hazardous radioactive or chemical materials, a licence must first be obtained for their import, export, transfer, storage or use. Entities that use such materials receive field visits, and storage facilities are searched in order to verify compliance with regulations. Workers who handle those materials must obtain a permit subject to technical requirements.

In order to underscore its genuine efforts in that regard, Oman joined the International Atomic Energy Agency in 2009. It has signed numerous relevant instruments, including the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, the Comprehensive Nuclear Test Ban Treaty, the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production and Stockpiling of Bacteriological (Biological) and Toxin Weapons and on Their Destruction and the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production, Stockpiling and Use of Chemical Weapons and on Their Destruction.

Weapons of mass destruction pose a threat to international security irrespective of their possessor, and their acquisition by terrorist groups creates a particular danger. It is therefore appropriate to reaffirm the need to rid the Middle East of such weapons, without prejudice to the legitimate right to the use of nuclear technology for peaceful purposes under the supervision of the United Nations and the International Atomic Energy Agency. Oman emphasized that point in its statement at the general debate of the sixty-seventh session of the General Assembly in 2012.

Peru

[Original: Spanish]
[21 April 2016]

The Peruvian Institute of Nuclear Energy (IPEN), in cooperation with national entities, is preparing reports on with the implementation of the resolutions adopted

by the United Nations to prevent terrorists from acquiring weapons of mass destruction. The reports pertain specifically to Security Council resolution 1373 (2001), which urges Member States to adopt a series of measures aimed at preventing terrorist acts; Security Council resolution 1540 (2004), which seeks to prevent access by non-State actors to weapons of mass destruction; and Security Council resolution 1624 (2005), which urges Member States to deny safe haven to any persons demonstrably linked to terrorist activities.

With regard to the implementation of resolution 1540 (2004), IPEN and the Ministry of Production are promoting the dissemination and implementation of Act No. 26672, which establishes the National Council for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons and incorporates into the Criminal Code article 279-A, which calls for a prison sentence of between 5 and 20 years for anyone who violates the Convention on Chemical Weapons. Other initiatives have included the enactment of Legislative Decision No. 26783, which approved the Convention on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Certain Conventional Weapons Which May Be Deemed to Be Excessively Injurious or Indiscriminate Effects, and Supreme Decree No. 002-97-RE, which ratifies the accession of Peru to the Convention.

As part of its efforts to prevent access to weapons of mass destruction, IPEN is disseminating the provisions of Supreme Decree 008-2011-PRODUCE, which approves the list of chemicals and the powers of the relevant national authority, and establishes the mechanisms for the control of sanctions and the destruction of chemicals that could be used in the manufacture of chemical weapons, as set out in Act No. 29239.

Efforts are also being made to strengthen the implementation of Act No. 28028, which regulates the use of sources of ionizing radiation and practices that generate exposure to ionizing radiation, in order to protect people, the environment and property. In addition, IPEN is ensuring implementation of Act No. 27757, which establishes a mechanism for controlling the import of sources of ionizing radiation — which require prior authorization by the technical office of the relevant national authority — and prohibits the import of radioactive sources of radium-226 (Ra-226) and units containing caesium-137 (Cs-137) for medical use.

Portugal[2]

[Original: English]
[31 May 2016]

Terrorism is intrinsically associated with the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction. The Portuguese authorities have been actively involved in the prevention of the acquisition of those weapons by terrorists as well as the purchasing of goods and services associated with terrorist activity.

Inter alia, Portugal is party to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, the Convention on Certain Conventional Weapons, the Convention on Cluster Munitions, the Biological Weapons Convention, the Chemical Weapons Convention, the Proliferation Security Initiative, the Global Initiative to Combat

[2] The full text of the information provided by the Government of Portugal is available on the website of the Office for Disarmament Affairs. A summary was provided for inclusion in the present report.

Nuclear Terrorism, the Nuclear Suppliers Group, the Wassenaar Arrangement, the Australia Group, the Missile Technology Control Regime, the Zangger Committee, the International Code of Conduct against Ballistic Missile Proliferation, the Group of Eight Global Partnership against the Spread of Weapons and Materials of Mass Destruction, Security Council resolution 1540 (2004) and the Outer Space Treaty, supports the entering into force of the fissile material cut-off treaty, the establishment of nuclear-weapon-free zones, encouraging, in the same way, bilateral negotiations on disarmament, and gives its support to the Conference of Disarmament. Portugal has also become party to several instruments, such as the Convention on the Physical Protection of Nuclear Material, the International Convention for the Suppression of Terrorist Bombings and the International Convention for the Suppression of the Financing of Terrorism. Still in this context, Portugal proceeded to deposit the instrument for ratification of the International Convention for the Suppression of acts of Nuclear Terrorism in September 2014.

In 2015 Portugal adopted the resolution No. 7-A/2015 of the Council of Ministers, which approves the National Strategy to Combat Terrorism, which contemplates in its pillars "detect" and "prevent" measures to prevent terrorists from acquiring weapons of mass destruction.

Portugal stresses the importance of international cooperation in order to increase the assessment process for this kind of threat and highlights the importance of the European Union chemical, biological, radiological or nuclear action plan (established by the Council, on 30 November 2009) as a basis and frame for the main actions to prevent and fight against terrorism. Portugal also applies Council regulation (EC) No. 428/2009, which establishes the Community Policy on export control, export, transfer, brokerage and traffic of dual-use products. Besides, Portugal fulfils other obligations in the framework of international law, like the questionnaires and national reports under the Biological Weapons Convention, the Wassenaar Arrangement, the Convention on Cluster Munitions, the Convention on Certain Conventional Weapons, the Zangger Committee, the Chemical Weapons Convention and The Hague Code of Conduct. Portugal also applies strict national regulations on this subject.

Sudan[3]

[Original: English]
[22 April 2016]

Sudan affirms its strong condemnation of terrorism in all its forms and manifestations, committed by whomever, and wherever and for whatever purposes, as it constitutes one of the most serious threats to international peace and security, and while it supports the efforts on measures to eliminate international terrorism, and threats international peace and security caused by terrorist acts, it refers to its commitment with the support of efforts to support the sovereign equality, respect for territorial integrity and political independence of all States, and to refrain in their international relations from the threat or use of force in any manner inconsistent with the purposes and principles of the United Nations, and supports the settlement

[3] The full text of the information provided by the Government of the Sudan is available on the website of the Office for Disarmament Affairs. A summary was provided for inclusion in the present report.

of disputes by peaceful means and in accordance with the principles of justice and international law, respect for the right of peoples which remain under colonial domination or foreign occupation to self-determination, non-interference in countries' internal affairs and respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms, respect for the equal rights of everyone without discrimination on the basis of race, sex, language or religion and international cooperation in solving the economic, social, cultural or humanitarian character of international problems, and to fulfil in good faith the commitments made by countries themselves. Sudan also reaffirms that it may not and should not associate terrorism with any religion, nationality, civilization or ethnic group. Sudan recognizes that international cooperation and any measures undertaken to prevent and combat terrorism must be in line with obligations under international law, which supports the strengthening of coordination and cooperation among States in combating crimes that may be related to terrorism, especially the following measures to prevent terrorists from acquiring weapons of mass destruction, and calls for the intensification of national efforts and cooperation at bilateral, subregional, regional and international levels, as appropriate, in order to improve border and customs controls to prevent and detect the movement of terrorists and illicit trafficking in nuclear materials or chemical, biological or radiological materials related to them. Sudan would like to emphasize that it will spare no effort to carry out its duties effectively as a member of the international community to prevent terrorists from acquiring weapons of mass destruction, and support that direction by signing and approving a number of agreements and treaties concluded to prohibit and prevent the spread of weapons of mass destruction. Sudan has fulfilled the provisions of these agreements and treaties, and has adapted its national legislation and laws and taken a number of practical steps to improve the control of borders and customs, exports and imports, risk assessment and management, techniques of detection and screening and the involvement of the industrial sector, in addition to its efforts to implement resolution 1540 (2004). Sudan would like to reiterate its conviction that the best solution to this matter lies in the complete elimination of these deadly weapons.

Turkmenistan[4]

[Original: Russian]
[16 June 2016]

On 19 January 1998, Turkmenistan ratified the Convention on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Certain Conventional Weapons Which May Be Deemed to Be Excessively Injurious or to Have Indiscriminate Effects, and it entered into force for Turkmenistan on 1 March 1999.

Turkmenistan has played an active role at international meetings of the Ottawa process in Vienna, Bonn, Brussels and Ashgabat, which have made a major contribution towards the creation of a Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production and Transfer of Anti-personnel Mines and on Their Destruction. Turkmenistan was a joint drafter and is a State party to the Convention. Turkmenistan was the first among the States of the Central Asian region to sign the Treaty at the International Strategy Conference "Towards a Global Ban on

[4] The full text of the information provided by the Government of Turkmenistan is available on the website of the Office for Disarmament Affairs. A summary was provided for inclusion in the present report.

Anti-Personnel Mines" in December 1997. Turkmenistan was elected Co-Chairman of the first meeting of States parties to the Convention (Maputo, 1999).

In view of its neutral status, no weapons are manufactured or sold on the territory of Turkmenistan. Turkmenistan takes the management of its defence assets seriously and consistently applies the principles of rigorous monitoring, responsible management and strict oversight.

Attaching special importance to the strengthening of international peace and security, Turkmenistan calls for the quantity of weapons to be reduced.

As the State that hosts the headquarters of the United Nations Regional Centre for Preventive Diplomacy for Central Asia, Turkmenistan supports the Centre's greater involvement in various aspects of regional issues, with the support of Member States of the United Nations and States members of other international organizations (the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe, the European Union, the Commonwealth of Independent States and others).

In 2015, the international forum on peace, security and stability in the Central Asian region was successfully held in Ashgabat. As a party to international treaties and conventions of the United Nations and multilateral instruments on disarmament, Turkmenistan will continue to extend full cooperation to these processes, particularly at the regional level, and aims to host regional disarmament meetings in Central Asia on a regular basis.

The National Security Act of Turkmenistan of 4 May 2013, in one of the paragraphs on the country's military security, provides for cooperation in the context of international security structures on nuclear disarmament initiatives that support military security in the world and the region, strengthen mutual trust and reduce military danger (article 20).

Given that its national security is an integral part of international security, and also with a view to obtaining international guarantees of national security, Turkmenistan contributes to international (global and regional) security through participation in international organizations and in their international conferences, meetings and activities, as well as to the conclusion of treaties that are in the interests of the country's national security (article 25 of the National Security Act of Turkmenistan).

III. Replies received from international organizations

Agency for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America and the Caribbean[5]

[Original: English]
[27 April 2016]

Article 1 of the Treaty for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America and the Caribbean, or Treaty of Tlatelolco, regarding the obligations of the

[5] The full text of the information provided by the Agency for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America and the Caribbean is available on the website of the Office for Disarmament Affairs. A summary was provided for inclusion in the present report.

Contracting Parties, covers all aspects concerning the prohibition of nuclear weapons.

The activities prohibited in Article 1 are addressed to "the Parties themselves, directly or indirectly, on behalf of anyone else or in any other way". Consequently, States Party undertake to impede that individuals, including terrorists, produce, test, acquire or deploy nuclear weapons within their national territories.

The purpose of the Control System (article 12) of the Treaty is to verify that "none of the activities prohibited in article 1 of this Treaty are carried out in the territory of the Contracting Parties with nuclear materials or weapons introduced from abroad". This includes the obligation of States Party to negotiate agreements with the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) for the application of safeguards to their nuclear activities (article 13). All the States Party to the Treaty of Tlatelolco have concluded safeguards agreements with IAEA.

Moreover, the Parties undertake to submit to the Agency for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America and the Caribbean (OPANAL) "semi-annual reports stating that no activity prohibited under this Treaty has occurred in their respective territories". This covers the acquisition of nuclear weapons by terrorists.

OPANAL draws attention to resolution CG/Res.419, entitled "Illicit trafficking in Nuclear Materials", adopted at the seventeenth session of the General Conference of OPANAL, held in Panama in 2001. By resolution CG/Res.419, the General Conference resolved to make a call to the members of OPANAL to adopt measures to prevent and impede the illicit trafficking of nuclear material for terrorist actions and other non-peaceful uses, and to increase security at the nuclear facilities and of materials used for such purpose.

OPANAL also adopted resolution CG/Res.457, entitled "Havana Declaration", during the eighteenth session of the General Conference, held in Havana on 5 November 2003, in which the member States of the Agency assumed the commitment to strengthen national nuclear control and verification systems to prevent illicit trafficking in nuclear material.

The Treaty of Tlatelolco entered into force in 1969. In the following 47 years, there has not been any transgression of its provisions, including the acquisition of nuclear weapons by terrorists.

Financial Action Task Force

[Original: English]
[4 May 2016]

The Financial Action Task Force (FATF) is an intergovernmental policymaking body setting internationally recognized standards (FATF Recommendations) and encouraging the implementation of policies to combat money-laundering, and the financing of terrorism and the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction. All 37 FATF members and all members of nine FATF-style regional bodies (from over 198 countries and jurisdictions in total) have committed at the ministerial level to implement the FATF Recommendations and undergo a mutual evaluation (peer review) to assess their compliance with those standards.

Proliferation financing is specifically targeted by FATF Recommendations 2 and 7, which help countries to implement relevant United Nations Security Council resolutions by requiring them to:

- Ensure that their policymaking and operational authorities have effective mechanisms to cooperate and coordinate domestically on the development and implementation of policies and activities to combat money-laundering and the financing of terrorism and proliferation;
- Implement targeted financial sanctions (asset-freezing and prohibitions on making funds available) to comply with Council resolutions relating to proliferation and its financing.

The FATF analyses and rates countries' compliance with its standards through a rigorous mutual evaluation process which assesses both technical compliance (whether a country has implemented an appropriate legislative framework and has competent authorities with adequate powers and procedures) and effectiveness of implementation (how well the country's system works in practice). The effectiveness assessment focuses on the extent to which each country:

- Understands its risks and, where appropriate, coordinates actions domestically to combat money-laundering and the financing of terrorism and proliferation;
- Prevents persons and entities involved in the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction from raising, moving and using funds, consistent with the relevant Security Council resolutions.

The results to date demonstrate that many countries are not implementing proliferation-related targeted financial sanctions effectively, and some do not yet have the adequate legal frameworks to do so. For more information, see the mutual evaluation reports completed to date, which are publicly available on the FATF website (www.fatf-gafi.org). FATF has robust mechanisms to take follow-up action and encourage countries to take the necessary action to address these deficiencies. It has also published guidance to help countries improve their implementation of the international standards to combat proliferation financing (see the FATF best practices paper on Recommendation 2 and FATF Guidance on the implementation of Financial Provisions of Security Council Resolutions to Counter the Proliferation of Weapons of Mass Destruction).

Intergovernmental Authority on Development

[Original: English]
[4 April 2016]

The Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD) region is vulnerable to a number of existing insecurity challenges in addition to other emerging threats, including terrorism, violent extremism and trafficking in drugs, humans and weapons, in which the worst scenario is where terrorists are able to acquire or use weapons of mass destruction.

IGAD, and in particular its Security Sector Program, has numerous ongoing efforts on counter-terrorism, which contribute to the enhancement of member States' security sector capacity to address these security threats and contribute to security and stability.

Firstly, IGAD developed a regional Peace and Security Strategy, having four strategic pillars; (a) conflict early warning and response activities; (b) preventive diplomacy; (c) cooperation to address existing, evolving and emerging transnational security threats; and (d) disaster risk management activities.

The initial institutional tool was the IGAD Capacity-Building Program against Terrorism 2006-2010. The Program had being focusing on national capacity-building and wide information-sharing. It had done a lot of its efforts to improve regional cooperation through enhancing judicial capacity, optimizing interdepartmental cooperation and enhancing border control management. One of its key achievements was developing the IGAD conventions on mutual legal assistance and extradition.

Secondly, the Capacity-Building Program against Terrorism was transformed into the IGAD Security Sector Program, with an extended mandate to contribute to the effective prediction, prevention and management of evolving and emerging transnational security threats. Its main approach is to promote the signing, ratification and domestication of regional and international legal instruments, including chemical, biological, radiological and nuclear non-proliferation conventions.

One of the key activities relating to the linkage between the fight against terrorism and the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction is the organization by the Security Sector Program, in partnership with the African Union and the Institute for Security Studies, of a regional workshop for all IGAD member States. The objectives were to build non-proliferation chemical, biological, radiological and nuclear capacities, in the context of Security Council resolution 1540 (2004).

Thirdly, efforts are ongoing within IGAD to establish a regional centre for countering violent extremism with the overall purpose of promoting and facilitating regional cooperation and coordination to counter violent extremism, as well as facilitating information and criminal intelligence sharing and effective experiences exchange.

To sum up, for more than a decade, these IGAD programs have being designing training curriculums and providing training and practical tools to enhance the capacities of Governments to implement effective measures and policies to counter terrorism.

International Atomic Energy Agency

[Original: English]
[15 June 2016]

The International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) supported the development and promotion of a comprehensive, global nuclear security framework. The Agency focused in particular on the entry into force of the 2005 Amendment to the Convention on the Physical Protection of Nuclear Material. During 2015, Kyrgyzstan and San Marino became parties to the Convention, and 7 States — Botswana, Iceland, Italy, Morocco, San Marino, Turkey and the United States of America — and one international organization — Euratom — consented to be bound by its 2005 Amendment.

The Agency continued to assist States, upon request, in making their national nuclear security regimes more robust, sustainable and effective. During 2015, the Agency began developing new guidelines for International Nuclear Security

Advisory Service missions. To date, a total of 76 such missions have been conducted in 64 Member States. The Agency also conducted International Physical Protection Advisory Service missions in Canada, Japan, New Zealand and Norway, bringing the total to 69 since 1996.

In June 2015, the Agency hosted the "International Conference on Computer Security in a Nuclear World: Expert Discussion and Exchange" at its headquarters in Vienna. The conference drew over 700 participants from 92 member States and 17 organizations.

The Nuclear Security Guidance Committee began its second term in 2015. To date, 65 member States have nominated representatives to the Committee. During the year, the Agency published four Implementing Guides.[6] At the end of 2015, there were 25 publications in the IAEA Nuclear Security Series.

In the course of the year, the Agency conducted a total of 108 security-related training courses and workshops, providing training to more than 2,300 participants. As at 31 December 2015, 131 States had participated in the incident and trafficking programme, and a total of 2,889 confirmed incidents were reported by participating States.

International Civil Aviation Organization

[Original: English]
[13 June 2016]

The International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) regularly reviews and adapts its global aviation security framework of Standards and Recommended Practices to ensure it is commensurate with the threat posed to civil aviation and provides appropriate mitigation measures against acts of unlawful interference. Such a review includes the assessment of the risks associated with the sabotage or use of aircraft as weapons of mass destruction.

In the wake of the tragedy of Malaysia Airlines flight MH17 in July 2014, ICAO undertook a series of measures that help to mitigate the risks that ground-to-air weapons pose to commercial aircraft operating in the proximity of conflict zones. Among those measures is a proposed change to annex 17, "Security", to the Convention on International Civil Aviation (Chicago, 1944) calling on member States to conduct a constant review of the level and nature of threat in their airspace.

Regarding the growing concern over the possible acquisition and use of man-portable air defence systems (MANPADS) against civil aviation, a new Standard has been developed to ensure that measures on the ground or operational procedures are established to mitigate attacks against aircraft with MANFADS and

[6] See "Security of nuclear information" (International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) Nuclear Security Series No. 23-G); "Risk-informed approach for nuclear security measures for nuclear and other radioactive material out of regulatory control" (IAEA Nuclear Security Series No. 24-G), jointly sponsored by the International Criminal Police Organization; "Use of nuclear material accounting and control for nuclear security purposes at facilities" (IAEA Nuclear Security Series No. 25-G); and "Security of nuclear material in transport" (IAEA Nuclear Security Series No. 26-G). In addition, the Agency published "Nuclear forensics in support of investigations" (IAEA Nuclear Security Series No. 2-G (Rev. 1)), a revision of an earlier Agency publication on the topic.

similar weapons. This Standard, along with others, will be included in amendment 15 to annex 17, which is expected to come into force in 2017.

The enhancement of air cargo and mail security continues to be a priority of ICAO, as evidenced by its strengthened partnership with the World Customs Organization and the Universal Postal Union. Of particular note is the ongoing work to establish a framework for advance cargo information, aimed at identifying consignments deemed high-risk before they are loaded onto commercial aircraft.

The rapid evolution of unmanned aircraft systems, including remotely piloted aircraft systems, represents a potentially significant threat to civil aviation, as their payloads and capacities can be used to carry significant explosive charges and could be directed towards critical aviation infrastructure or aircraft, potentially causing mass casualties. ICAO is fully committed to addressing this threat and developing Standards and best practices to assist States in their efforts to mitigate the associated risks in a global and harmonized fashion.

Since its adoption in 2010, the Convention on the Suppression of Unlawful Acts Relating to International Civil Aviation has received 14 ratifications from States. Among other things, the Convention criminalizes the use of aircraft to cause death, injury or damage, and the use and unauthorized transport on board aircraft of biological, chemical and nuclear weapons.

International Maritime Organization

[Original: English]
[27 May 2016]

The International Maritime Organization (IMO) instruments relevant to General Assembly resolution 70/36 and Security Council resolution 1373 (2001) are:

(a) the Convention for the Suppression of Unlawful Acts against the Safety of Maritime Navigation, 1988; the Protocol for the Suppression of Unlawful Acts against the Safety of Fixed Platforms Located on the Continental Shelf, 1988; and corresponding protocols of 2005;

(b) chapter XI-2 of the International Convention for the Safety of Life at Sea, 1974, as amended, and part A of the International Ship and Port Facility Security Code, adopted in 2002 and which entered into force on 1 July 2004.

The Code focuses on the protection of port facilities and ships through preventive measures to deter and detect unlawful acts, primarily addressing physical security, control of access and security procedures. The 1988 and 2005 Convention and protocols make it illegal, under international law, to attack ships or platforms fixed on the continental shelf, including offences relating to acts of terrorism on board ships, the carriage of weapons of mass destruction and terrorist fugitives; criminalize their transportation; and introduce provisions to enable boarding of vessels on the high seas pursuant to such offences.

IMO has developed and implemented a comprehensive global technical cooperation programme which focuses on assisting States in the implementation, verification, compliance with, and enforcement of, the provisions of chapter XI-2,

the Code and the Convention and protocols, as well as long-range identification and tracking of ships for enhanced maritime situational awareness.

IMO has forged strong links with the United Nations Office for Disarmament Affairs and other international and regional partners in the delivery of technical cooperation projects for maritime and border security and has participated in numerous in-country needs assessment missions with the Counter-Terrorism Committee Executive Directorate related to Security Council resolution 1373 (2001), in which IMO serves as the maritime component of a multi-agency United Nations border management security team. IMO is likewise engaged in several of the Counter-Terrorism Implementation Task Force working groups, most notably the working group on border management and law enforcement and its work to help Member States implement comprehensive and coordinated approaches to address the threat of terrorism in the context of cross-border activities.

North Atlantic Treaty Organization[7]

[Original: English]
[30 April 2016]

Proliferation of weapons of mass destruction

- North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) Heads of State and Government have on numerous occasions called for universal adherence to, and compliance with, the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons and the additional protocol to the International Atomic Energy Agency's safeguard agreement, as well as for full implementation of Security Council resolution 1540 (2004) and further work under Council resolution 1977 (2011). Reference is made to paragraphs 75 to 78 of the Wales Summit Declaration of 5 September 2014.

Chemical, biological, radiological or nuclear defence capabilities

- Within the NATO Response Force, the multinational Combined Joint Chemical, Biological, Radiological or Nuclear (CBRN) Defence Task Force, including the CBRN Joint Assessment Team and the CBRN component of the Very High Readiness Joint Task Force, are the key assets to protect against and respond to a CBRN attack or event involving CBRN materials from State and non-State actors. This high-readiness force significantly adds to the specialized capabilities that the Alliance has to offer to allies and partners. The NATO Joint CBRN Defence Centre of Excellence and its CBRN Reachback Element is able to operate 24 hours a day, seven days a week, and provides scientific and operational advice before, during and after CBRN incidents.
- NATO CBRN defence activities to protect against State and non-State actors' threats are supported by the Committee on Proliferation in Defence format, the Joint CBRN Defence Capability Development Group, the CBRN Medical Working Group, the Joint CBRN Defence Centre of Excellence, the Defence Against Terrorism Programme of Work and CBRN defence experts within

[7] The full text of the information provided by the North Atlantic Treaty Organization is available on the website of the Office for Disarmament Affairs. A summary was provided for inclusion in the present report.

NATO headquarters (Weapons of Mass Destruction Non-Proliferation Centre) and throughout the NATO command and forces structure. The Framework Nations Concept Cluster on CBRN protection, approved by Heads of State and Government at the Wales Summit, provides for additional capabilities.

Cooperation with partners

- Through the Euro-Atlantic Partnership Council, the Mediterranean Dialogue and the Istanbul Cooperation Initiative, and with other partners across the globe, NATO has deepened cooperation and information sharing on threats related to weapons of mass destruction and strengthened non-proliferation initiatives.
- As one of the largest NATO outreach activities, the Annual NATO Conference on Weapons of Mass Destruction Arms Control, Disarmament and Non-Proliferation gathers decision makers, senior officials and distinguished academics in the field of weapons of mass destruction and security from a wide range of countries. The last two events were held in Qatar in March 2015 and Slovenia in May 2016, and the next conference is planned to be held in Finland in 2017.

Science cooperation

- The NATO Science for Peace and Security programme supports practical security-related civil science and technology collaboration between scientists and experts from NATO and partner countries. In particular, the programme directly facilitates mutually beneficial cooperation on issues of common interest, in particular international efforts to meet emerging security challenges, including counter-terrorism and defence against CBRN agents.

Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe

[Original: English]
[7 June 2016]

In 2015, the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE) has continued to contribute to international efforts in preventing terrorists from acquiring and using weapons of mass destruction and related activities. OSCE, through the establishment of an extrabudgetary project within the OSCE Conflict Prevention Centre, has also continued to assist participating States with the implementation of Security Council resolution 1540 (2004), in particular by assisting with the development and implementation of voluntary national implementation action plans for interested participating States. With its 57 participating States and in close cooperation with the Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 1540 (2004) and its Group of Experts and other relevant international/regional organizations including the United Nations Office for Disarmament Affairs, OSCE has intensified the facilitation of assistance to States on implementation of resolution 1540 (2004), while emphasizing the added value of a regional approach in this regard.

Furthermore, in line with the OSCE Consolidated Framework for the Fight against Terrorism, the Action against Terrorism Unit of the OSCE's Transnational Threats Department supports the objectives of resolution 1540 (2004) through its programme on promoting the international legal framework against terrorism and

cooperation in criminal matters related to terrorism. Another programme that focuses on promoting container and supply chain security is being discontinued at the end of 2013. The first programme contributes to the dissemination of best practices and the sharing of information among prosecutors, judges and law enforcement officials on international judicial and legal cooperation tools related to combatting terrorism, while the second programme facilitates technical assistance and awareness-raising efforts in the field of container security, in support of the World Customs Organization and other relevant international organizations.

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Item 97 (k) of the preliminary list*
General and complete disarmament

Observance of environmental norms in the drafting and implementation of agreements on disarmament and arms control

Report of the Secretary-General

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* A/71/50.

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I. Introduction

1. In paragraph 4 of its resolution 70/30, entitled "Observance of environmental norms in the drafting and implementation of agreements on disarmament and arms control", the General Assembly invited all Member States to communicate to the Secretary-General information on the measures they had adopted to promote the objectives envisaged in the resolution, and requested the Secretary-General to submit a report containing that information to the General Assembly at its seventy-first session.

2. Pursuant to that request, on 15 February 2016, a note verbale was sent to all Member States inviting them to provide information on the subject. The replies received thus far are contained in section II below. Additional replies received will be issued as addenda to the present report.

II. Replies received from Governments

Cuba

[Original: Spanish]
[24 May 2016]

Cuba stresses the need to observe environmental norms in all aspects of public life, including in the drafting and implementation of disarmament and arms control treaties.

Cuba, which is a State party to, inter alia, the Chemical Weapons Convention, the Biological Weapons Convention, the Convention on Certain Conventional Weapons and the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, ensures strict observance of environmental norms and the other obligations arising from those instruments.

Cuba has developed robust legislation that is enforced strictly by the competent bodies, including those responsible for implementing international disarmament and arms control obligations at the domestic level.

Cuba has many instruments to ensure environmental protection in the implementation of disarmament and arms control treaties and conventions to which it is a party, including:

- Article 27 of the Constitution, which refers to the concept of sustainable development.
- Act No. 81/1997 on the environment, which sets forth the principles underpinning the country's environmental policy.
- Decree-law No.207 on the use of nuclear energy, which establishes the general rules in this area;
- Decree No.208 on the national system of accounting for and control of nuclear materials, which establishes the norms for the national system, with the aim of ensuring the efficient management of nuclear materials and detecting any unauthorized use, loss or movement of such materials.

- Domestic laws on biosecurity and the implementation of the Biological Weapons Convention are reflected in Decree-Law No. 190/99 on biosecurity; decision No. 2/2004 of the Ministry of Science, Technology and the Environment on regulations for accounting for and control of biological materials, equipment and related technologies; the most recent update of the list of biological agents that affect people, animals and plants; and the regulations for granting biosecurity certification, which are contained in decisions Nos. 38/2006 and 180/2007, respectively, of the Ministry of Science, Technology and the Environment.

- Decree-law No. 202/1999, which governs the implementation of the Chemical Weapons Convention at the domestic level.

- Agreement No. 5517 of 2005 of the Executive Committee of the Council of Ministers, entitled "On contraventions resulting from violation of the rules of the Chemical Weapons Convention", which rounded out the legislative measures needed to implement the Convention.

The only truly effective solution for preventing the dire consequences of the use of weapons of mass destruction is their total elimination.

Relevant environmental norms must be duly taken into account in international disarmament forums and during the negotiation of international treaties and agreements on disarmament and arms control.

The Chemical Weapons Convention continues to be the only international agreement that provides an extensive verification regime for the destruction of an entire category of weapons of mass destruction and the facilities where they are produced, and for the protection of people and the environment.

Considering the nuclear threat to the survival of the human race and the constant risk of death and destruction of the environment that would be posed by the use of this type of weapon, Cuba reiterates its call to begin without further delay negotiations for the early conclusion of a comprehensive convention for the prohibition and complete elimination of nuclear weapons within a specified time frame and under strict international control. A comprehensive treaty on nuclear disarmament must of necessity include environmental protection measures.

A legally binding and multilaterally negotiated protocol to strengthen the Biological Weapons Convention is essential to protect the environment and preserve the biodiversity of our planet.

Lebanon

[Original: Arabic]
[8 April 2016]

The Ministry of National Defence notes that:

Lebanon possesses no weapons that affect or harm the environment, and supports the agreements on disarmament, arms control and the observance of environmental standards. It is, however, deeply concerned by Israel's possession and maintenance of a massive arsenal of weapons of mass destruction, which could be harmful to the environment, even if they are not used.

Mexico

[Original: Spanish]
[19 May 2016]

The Government of Mexico reiterates its commitment to full observance of the environmental norms contained in the treaties and agreements on disarmament and arms control to which it is a party, in order to minimize the negative impact on the environment, which has adverse consequences for development and the well-being of the people.

Mexico does not have or produce, and never has had or produced, weapons of mass destruction (whether biological, chemical or nuclear) or weapons with cruel and indiscriminate effects. Mexico remains a regular, active and committed advocate of a ban on such weapons, as well as a supporter of a general and complete disarmament, as it is convinced that disarmament is the only means to achieve a more secure, more peaceful, more equitable and more inclusive world for present and future generations.

Mexico will continue to support initiatives that recognize the complexity and interconnected nature of the immediate, medium-term and long-term negative effects of the accidental or intentional detonation of a nuclear weapon on, inter alia, the environment, food security, climate and development, which would be systemic and potentially irreversible for humanity as a whole.

Portugal

[Original: English]
[31 May 2016]

At its seventieth session, the General Assembly, recalling the previous resolutions adopted on this issue, reaffirmed the importance of the observance of environmental norms in the drafting and implementation of agreements on disarmament and arms control, particularly with regard to nuclear weapons. In this context, the General Assembly adopted resolution 70/30, in which it recognized the importance of the adoption by States of measures that assure environmental progress, in the context of the international security.

Portugal has adopted the highest standards regarding environmental protection and pollution prevention. In addition, best practice guidelines as well as recommendations from the relevant international organizations have been translated into national legislation, particularly in the Environmental Directive for National Defence, dated 19 April 2011. Furthermore, Portugal fully complies with European Union law concerning environmental norms.

The Portuguese Armed Forces, in operation theatres, comply with the most environmentally protective or favourable provisions enshrined either in the Portuguese or host country legislations.

In addition, Portugal is a party to all major disarmament and non-proliferation conventions. In accordance with its international obligation under the Convention on Cluster Munitions and the Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production and Transfer of Anti-Personnel Mines and on Their Destruction, Portugal has disposed or destroyed its stock of, inter alia, cluster munitions and landmines

and, in doing so, fully respected applicable environmental norms, which include standards agreed by the members of the European Union (Directive 94/67/EC, on the incineration of hazardous wastes).

Being a party to the Chemical Weapons Convention and the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production and Stockpiling of Bacteriological (Biological) and Toxin Weapons and on Their Destruction requires from Portugal control measures that are either fully in place or that are being implemented, thus contributing to environmental safety and security.

In addition, Portugal complies with such norms when destroying firearms that are found or seized by police forces. The procedures by which they are destroyed are described in greater detail in the International Tracing Instrument report and the document on small arms and light weapons prepared by the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe.

Portugal is a State signatory to the Convention on the Prohibition of Military or Any Other Hostile Use of Environmental Modification Techniques, which was adopted by the General Assembly in its resolution 31/72 on 10 December 1976, and in which the Assembly recalls the Declaration of the United Nations Conference on the Human Environment, adopted at Stockholm on 16 June 1972, and remains ready to proceed with its ratification.

Spain

[Original: Spanish]
[31 May 2016]

In Spain, the environmental norms of the European Union, which have been incorporated into Spanish law and are consequently binding, serve as the benchmark for environmental management.

Spain continues to follow the procedures described in reports of previous years for the destruction of weapons and ammunition in the implementation of the main disarmament and arms control agreements to which it is a party. The highlights of these procedures are summarized below.

Destruction of anti-personnel mines

The destruction of anti-personnel mines was carried out by the Spanish company Fabricaciones Extremeñas (FAEX), which guaranteed maximum safety and zero environmental impact, in keeping with the ISO 14000 standard and European Union Council Directive 94/67/EC on the incineration of hazardous waste. In all, 849,365 mines were destroyed in a record period of 28 months.

Destruction of conventional weapons (Treaty on Conventional Armed Forces in Europe)

In the case of Spain, 371 battle tanks and 87 artillery pieces had to be destroyed; the process was completed on 16 November 1995.

Currently, further reductions are being made to offset the commissioning of new equipment and to ensure that the limits laid down by the Treaty on Conventional Armed Forces in Europe are not exceeded.

Destruction of small arms and light weapons

Spain also observes environmental norms with regard to the destruction of small arms and light weapons, as set out in the Document on Small Arms and Light Weapons of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe.

Destruction of cluster munitions

In accordance with the ISO 14001:2004 standard and European Union Council Directive 94/67/EC for the incineration of hazardous waste, Spain has destroyed all cluster munitions supplied to its armed forces, with the exception of those retained for development and training, pursuant to article 3, paragraph 6, of the Convention on Cluster Munitions.

Between December 2008 and December 2015, a total of 1,950 ESPIN-21 mortar grenades and 1,852 MAT-120 mortar bombs were destroyed, as well as 575 CBU-100, 38 CBU-99B and 385 BME-330B/AP aircraft-launched bombs.

Turkmenistan

[Original: Russian]
[28 March 2016]

Like the entire international community, Turkmenistan notes the importance of observing environmental norms in the drafting and implementation of agreements on disarmament and arms control. Turkmenistan will certainly contribute at all levels of cooperation towards ensuring the application of scientific and technological progress within the framework of international security, disarmament and other related spheres, without detriment to the environment.

Alongside international security and sustainable development, environmental security has been a constant theme raised in the speeches delivered by our Head of State at the meetings of international organizations. The President of Turkmenistan set out our country's official position on environmental issues at the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development (Rio+20), held in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, on 21 June 2012.

In his address to the seventieth session of the General Assembly, the President of Turkmenistan noted that Turkmenistan had officially presented its concept for strengthening international environmental cooperation at various conferences and had put forward a number of concrete proposals, which included the joint initiative with the United Nations to establish a regional climate-change centre for Central Asia. He had said that Turkmenistan continued to be committed to that idea and that it stood ready to take steps jointly with the United Nations Development Programme to establish such a centre in Ashgabat in 2016.

Turkmenistan's success in implementing plans arising from United Nations environmental protection programmes and conventions is demonstrated by the fact that its economic development is underpinned by the principle of environmental security.

Consistent work is under way to implement laws and regulations that apply the generally recognized norms of international law, with a view to strengthening and developing international cooperation on environmental protection and ensuring

environmental security. Environmental law seminars and conferences are consistently being held to spur the further development of international cooperation.

In accordance with the Act on the national security of Turkmenistan of 4 May 2013, the competent State authorities, organizations and officials responsible for environmental security have an obligation to prevent the radioactive, chemical and bacteriological contamination of national territory.

In the area of environmental impact assessments, international cooperation is based on international agreements between Turkmenistan and foreign States regarding cooperation on environmental protection issues and environmental security for the population (Act on environmental impact assessments dated 16 August 2014).

Our country's proposals for protecting the environment and ensuring environmental sustainability, both nationally and regionally, are fundamental for the continued smooth development of international relations on environmental matters.

Overall, the work being carried out by our country to protect the environment and ensure environmental sustainability reaffirms that Turkmenistan is fulfilling its international obligations in this area.

Ukraine

[Original: English]
[1 June 2016]

In accordance with the Protocol on Explosive Remnants of War to the Convention on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Certain Conventional Weapons Which May Be Deemed to Be Excessively Injurious or to Have Indiscriminate Effects, adopted by Ukraine in Law No. 2281-IV of Ukraine on 22 December 22 2004, and with regard to the Code of Civil Defence of Ukraine, the State Emergency Service of Ukraine, through the units of the Operative Rescue Service of Civil Protection, implements a range of measures on humanitarian demining of the territories of Ukraine.

In 2015, pyrotechnic units of the State Emergency Service made approximately 8,100 response field visits, and found, extracted and disposed of more than 50,100 munitions (excluding small arms ammunition), including 748 aircraft bombs. A total of 10,700 ha of the territory were examined, and the explosive remnants defused. During 2016 (up to 1 April) pyrotechnic units made 1,428 visits, and extracted and destroyed 10,408 pieces of ammunition, including 97 aircraft bombs. More than 1,660 ha of the territory of Ukraine were examined and demined.

Since July 2014, the pyrotechnic units of the State Emergency Service cleared around 11,640 ha of the territories of the Donetsk and Lugansk regions, which had been liberated from Russian terrorist forces, as well as 38 ha of a water area, and extracted and destroyed more than 54,200 units of explosive remnants,. More than 1,000 sites of social infrastructure were examined.

As a result of the actions of the Russian-terrorist forces and ongoing aggression of Russia against Ukraine, much of the liberated territory of the Donetsk

and Lugansk regions, with a total area of about 7,000 km², is contaminated with explosive remnants and needs urgent examination and humanitarian demining.

The activity of the State Emergency Service in demining the territories of the Donetsk and Lugansk regions is of an exclusively humanitarian nature and provides the following:

- Security to the people living in the populated areas.
- Recovery and stable operation of infrastructure support systems (electricity, gas, water and other utility systems).
- Operation of transport infrastructure and promotion of safe agricultural labour.
- Clean-up of water areas affected by ammunition.

During 2015, the State Emergency Service implemented 10 projects in the framework of the international obligations of Ukraine to remove explosive remnants from its territory and water zones, carry out humanitarian demining actions, further the implementation of the Information Management System for Mine Action and inform its population about the risks associated with mines.